

Six Short Life Rules

Selected.

Never neglect daily private prayer; and when you pray, remember that God is present, and that he hears your prayers. Heb. 11:6.

Never neglect daily private Bible reading; and when you read, remember that God is speaking to you, and that you are to believe and act upon what he says. I believe all backsliding begins with the neglect of these two rules. John 5:39.

Never let a day pass without trying to do something for Jesus. Every night reflect on what Jesus has done for you, and then ask yourself, What am I doing for him? Matt. 5:13, 16.

If ever you are in doubt as to a thing being right or wrong, go to your room, kneel down, and ask God's blessing upon it. Col. 3:17. If you cannot do this, it is wrong. Rom. 14:23.

Never take your Christianity from Christians, or argue that because such and such people do so and so, therefore you may. II Cor. 10:12. You are to ask yourself, How would Christ act in my place? and strive to do as he would do. John 10:27.

Never believe what you feel, if it contradicts God's word; ask yourself, Can what I feel be true, if God's word is true? and if both cannot, believe God and make your own heart the liar. Rom. 3:4; I John 5:10, 11.

The Christian Life

"Thy Will Be Done"

WILLIAM HALE

Softly and fondly we say it over,

Day after day, as we homeward run,

Saintliest speech of the yearning spirit,

"Father in heaven, Thy will be done."

With all the faith that we breathed it, Father,

In the blithe morning life's day begun,

Help us to pray, when night's shadows gather,

"Father in heaven, Thy will be done."

Grant us, Lord, when, in the soul's sweet dawning,

Joyful we rise to Thy blessed Son,

Grateful to join in the angel chorus,

"Father in heaven, Thy will be done."

—Christian Advocate.

REASONS FOR CHURCH ATTENDANCE ON RAINY SUNDAYS

W. D. FURRY

The following reasons for church attendance on rainy Sundays were given by Frances Ridley Havergal in the "Southern Cross."

1. God has blessed the Lord's day and hallowed it, making no exceptions for rainy Sundays.

2. I expect my minister to be there. I should be surprised if he were to stay at home because of the weather.

3. If his hands fail thru weakness I shall have great reason to blame myself unless I sustain him by my prayers and my presence.

4. By staying away I lose the prayers that bring God's blessing, and the sermon that might have done me great good.

5. My presence is more needful on rainy

Sundays when there are few than on those Sundays when the church is crowded.

6. Whatever station I hold in the church my example must always influence others. If I stay away why may not they?

7. On any important business rainy weather does not keep me at home, and church attendance is, in God's sight, very important.

8. Among the crowds of pleasure seekers I see no weather keeps the delicate female from the ball, the party or the concert.

9. Among other blessings such weather will show me on what foundation my faith is built. It will prove how much I love Christ. True love rarely fails to keep an appointment.

10. Those who stay from church because it is too warm, or too cold, or too rainy, frequently absent themselves on fair Sundays.

11. Tho my excuses satisfy myself they must still undergo God's scrutiny and they must be well grounded to do that. Luke 14:18.

12. There is a special promise that where two or three are gathered in Christ's name, he will be in the midst of them.

13. An avoidable absence from the church is an infallible evidence of spiritual decay. Disciples first follow Christ at a distance, and then, like Peter, do not know him.

14. My faith is to be shown by self-denying Christian life and not by the rise and fall of the thermometer.

15. Such yielding to surmountable difficulties prepares for yielding to those merely imaginary until thousands never enter a church and yet think they have good reason for such neglect.

16. I know not how many more Sundays God may give me, and it would be a poor preparation for my first Sunday in heaven to have slighted my last one on earth.

Our Father

Rev. J. R. Miller, D. D.

The name we use for God in prayer is very important. It is not the same whether we call him King, Creator, Judge or Father. If we think of him as our King, royalty is suggested to us—majesty, splendor and power—but no tenderness, nor ease of access, nor love. If we call him Creator, the name carries us back to the beginning, when all things came from the Divine hand, and we think of power, wisdom, goodness, beauty; but he is not brought near us. Some people begin their prayers by invoking God as the Incomprehensible One, a God of majesty and holiness, the Lord of hosts. All these names or titles have their suggestions of attributes or qualities of the divine character. But none of them present to us thoughts of God which make approach to him easy. When we speak to God as our Father, the vision which arises before us assures us of a welcome when we come to him.

In the midst of the splendors of royalty, when men of highest rank are admitted to

the king's presence only at the king's household always have free access. No court rules shut them away, or prescribe any ceremonious manner in which they must approach the throne. The king is their father. To be a child of God is to have assurance of access to him at all times. This golden gate of prayer, "Our Father," leads into the innermost sanctuary, into the very "secret place of the Most High;" and it is shut neither night nor day to any child of God.

Converting a Soul

F. B. Meyer, D. D.

There was a year in the little church at Blantyre when but one convert was welcomed to the Lord's table, but that lad was David Livingstone, and as he was sown in the soil of his much-loved Africa, he has become the seed germ of that mighty ingathering of souls which is being garnered into the heavenly storehouse. A young Sunday-school teacher, a poor seamstress, gave a rough street arab a shilling to induce him to go to Sunday-school. That boy, Amos Sutton, was converted, went to work as a missionary among the Telugus, and after twenty-five years 10,000 converts were won in a single year.

Rich Toward God

United Presbyterian.

Here is a widow. She has lived past the prime of life and begins to feel some of the burdens of years. She has known much sorrow. She is without a family to support her in her declining years. Her income is only the returns from her own labor. We happen to know that she gives liberally to the support of ordinances, that she remembers the missionary funds, and gives also to other worthy objects as they come before her. She loves the Lord who died for her; she says he who called her children to himself will himself take care of her. She is happy, and rejoices in the great goodness which she feels has been shown to her by her Father in heaven. We know men of wealth who are not half so rich as is this widow.

They Shall See Him

Selected.

Passing thru the narrow alley of a city the other day, we heard a woman's voice in cheering song. The words of the refrain upon which she lingered, seemed strangely out of place in that environment. She sang:

And I shall see him face to face,
And tell the story: "Saved by grace!"

Looking up toward the place from whence the song came, we saw a poor old servant woman, down on her hands and knees, scrubbing the second story floor of a dwelling. In a moment that sweet song took a depth and beauty of meaning and a charm unimagined before. That poor scrub woman, in her weary toil, was a "daughter of the King," and heir of eternal glory, for a short time away from home, a pilgrim and stranger in the earth. What she sang, as she looked up into the face of the Unseen, was sober truth: "I shall see him face to face!" The drudg-